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ARMS 11-5

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URGENT

BY R. H. GROWALD

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE UNITED STATES IS SPEEDING UP SHIPMENTS OF ARMS INCLUDING WARPLANES TO ISRAEL, DIPLOMATS SAID TODAY.

THEY SAID THE ARMS SHIPMENT SPEEDUP EMERGED FROM A MEETING AT THE PENTAGON LAST WEEK BETWEEN DEFENSE SECRETARY JAMES R. SCHLESINGER AND ISRAEL AMBASSADOR SANCHI DINITZ.

DINITZ ASKED FOR THE FASTER SHIPMENT BECAUSE OF WAR FEARS STEMMING FROM THE RABAT ARAB SUMMIT WHICH ALIGNED THE ARABS WITH THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION.

THE DIPLOMATS SAID THERE IS NO AGREEMENT FOR MORE AMERICAN ARMS BUT FOR SPEEDING UP THE DELIVERY OF WEAPONS WHICH AMERICA ALREADY HAS AGREED TO SUPPLY.

THE SHIPMENTS INVOLVE WHOLE WEAPONS AND NOT JUST SPARE PARTS, THE SOURCES SAID.

MORE

--TA/1644G

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1ST ADD ARMS WASHINGTON X X X SAID.

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MORE

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2ND ADD ARMS WASHINGTON XXX SAID.

THE SPEEDUP HAS CHEERED ISRAELI MILITARY MORALE, THE SOURCES SAID. THE FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER MOSHA DAYAN OF ISRAEL WILL COME TO WASHINGTON FOR TALKS MONDAY, NONE SOURCE SAID.

DAYAN CURRENTLY IS VISITING THE UNITED STATES.

ONE DIPLOMAT SAID THE INITIAL IMPACT OF THE RABAT SUMMIT THREW GLOOM OVER ISRAELI HOPES FOR DIPLOMATIC PEACE PROGRESS. HOWEVER A SPEECH BY THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB. THE DIPLOMAT SAID PARTIALLY LIFTED THE GLOOM. THE ENVOY SAID THE ARAB SUMMIT DOES NOT BAR THE WAY FOR A SECOND STAGE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT.

MORE

--TA/1650G

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3RD ADD ARMS WASHINGTON X X X EGYPT.

THE DIPLOMATS SAID ISRAEL IS READY NOW TO OFFER IN A SECOND STAGE AGREEMENT WITH CAIRO A FURTHER MILITARY WITHDRAWAL BACK FROM THE SUEZ CANAL. THEY SAID ISRAEL WOULD EXPECT EGYPT IN RETURN TO DECLARE THE AREA NON-BELLIGERENT AND TO ALLOW SUCH ACTIVITY AS THE FREE FLOW OF CIVILIANS TO AND FROM THE AREA.

THE DIPLOMATS SAID ISRAEL, HOWEVER, IS GROWING CONCERNED OVER WHAT IT SEES AS CAIRO BACKING DOWN FROM A FIRST STAGE AGREEMENT TO ALLOW ISRAELI CARGO THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL ONCE THE WATERWAY IS OPENED. THEY SAID ISRAEL BELIEVES CAIRO OBLIGATED ITSELF TO SUCH FREE PASSAGE IN THE FIRST STAGE AGREEMENT AND CANNOT NOW DEMAND MORE.

--TA/1655G